

April 25, 2013

The Life of Dana C. Craig



- Dana C. Craig, age 91, of Watertown, SD died on Monday, April 22, 2013 at a local care center. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at Cornerstone United Methodist Church in Watertown. Rev. Roger Spahr will officiate. Music will be provided by Sandy Dingsor, organist, and Peri Erdmann, soloist.

- Burial will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Watertown. Military Honors will be provided by Codington County Post #17 of the American Legion, Watertown and U.S. Navy Funeral Honors Team. Pallbearers will be: Craig Arthur, Chris Arthur, Clark Craig, Matthew Gervase, Joseph Arthur, and Steven Danekas.

- Visitation will be at Crawford Funeral Chapel in Watertown, SD. He graduated from Groton High School in 1939. He

then served in the U.S. Navy. On March 10, 1946, he married Bette Lofthouse in Groton, SD. The couple lived in Seattle, WA where Dana worked for the railroad. They then moved to Conde, SD where they farmed for ten years. In 1957, they moved to San Diego, CA and then returned to SD and farmed near Crandall, SD. In 1974, the couple moved north of Watertown to farm. Bette passed away in 2008 and in 2009 Dana moved into Watertown.

- Dana was a member of Cornerstone United Methodist Church, Masons, Shriners, and Eastern Star where he was Past Grand Patron. He also belonged to the American Legion and VFW. He received his pilot's license when he was in his fifties. He enjoyed dancing, traveling, and golfing, which he started at the age of 75. Dana especially enjoyed being with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

- He is survived by his children: Dana C. (Melinda) Craig, Jr. of Calera, AL, Paula K. (Steven) Danekas, of Naperville, IL, and Tawny L. (Joseph) Arthur of South Shore, SD; nine grandchildren: Beth (John) Rutledge, Todd (Alison) Craig, Rachelle (Brent) Terada, Margo (Matthew) Gervase, Karla (Andrew) Craig, Craig (Marissa) Arthur, Kelsey Arthur, Christopher Arthur, Courtney Arthur; ten great-grandchildren: Nolan and Emma Craig, Abigail, Jessica, Max, and Riley Terada, Jacob and Ryan Gervase, and Kaylee and Keagan Craig; and a sister, Joyce Kraft of Aberdeen, SD.

- Dana was preceded in death by his wife, Bette; his parents, and one brother.